

**Claims**

We claim:

1. An illuminated post system comprising:

a first fence post connected to a fence;

a first base member secured to a top end of the first fence post of the fence, the first base member including a first recessed portion and a first aperture disposed in the first recessed portion; and,

a first light source disposed in the first base member, the first light source providing light to be emitted through the first aperture.

2. The illuminated post system of claim 1 further comprising:

a first ornamental cap secured to the first base member.

3. The illuminated post fencing system of claim 1 further comprising:

a second base member secured to a top portion of a second fence post connected to the fence, the second base member including a first recessed portion and a first aperture disposed in the first recessed portion; and,

a second light source disposed in the second base member.

4. The illuminated post system of claim 1 wherein the base member further includes a second aperture.

5. The illuminated post system of claim 1 further comprising a lens covering the first aperture.

6. The illuminated post system of claim 3 wherein the first fence post and the second fence post are connected by a first slat, and wherein wiring is strung within an interior portion of the first post, the second post and the first slat to provide electrical power for the first light source and the second light source.

-10-

7. The illuminated post system of claim 1 wherein the first base member comprises a generally hollow frame having a first side, a second side, a third side and a fourth side, and wherein the first light source is mounted in an interior portion of the first base member.

5 8. The illuminated post system of claim 1 wherein the first recessed portion forms a generally concave first surface, and wherein the first aperture is placed in an upper portion of the first surface.

10 9. The illuminated post system of claim 1 wherein the first light source is a light bulb disposed within the first base member.

10. The illuminated post system of claim 5 wherein the lens is a translucent material.

15 11. The illuminated post system of claim 2 wherein the first ornamental cap comprises a translucent material.

12. An illuminated post system comprising:  
a plurality of fence posts connected by slats to form at least a portion of a fence;  
each of the plurality of fence posts including a lighted base member secured to a top  
20 portion of the fence posts; and,  
each lighted base member including a first recessed portion containing a first aperture,  
and an internal light source.

25 13. The illuminated post system of claim 12 wherein at least one lighted base member further includes a second recessed portion containing a second aperture.

14. The illuminated post system of claim 12 wherein each lighted base member includes a second recessed portion containing a second aperture.

30 15. The illuminated post system of claim 12 further comprising a plurality of ornamental caps, each cap connected to a base member secured to the plurality of fence posts.

16. The illuminated post system of claim 12 wherein the first aperture in each lighted base member includes a first lens element secured to the first aperture.

5 17. The illuminated post system of claim 16 wherein the first lense element is a clear material.

18. The illuminated post system of claim 16 wherein the first lense element is a translucent material having a color.

10 19. The illuminated post system of claim 12 wherein the light source comprises a light bulb positioned within an interior portion of the lighted base member.

20. The illuminated post system of claim 19 wherein the light bulb is connected to a base plate which is connected to the base member.

15 21. The illuminated post system of claim 12 further comprising a wiring system for providing electrical energy to the light source in each base member.

20 22. The illuminated post system of claim 21 wherein at least a portion of the slats each include a hollow interior portion to accommodate the wiring system.

23. A fence post illumination system comprising:  
a lighted base member configured for placement on a top portion of a fence post of a fence, the lighted base member comprising a bottom portion shaped to engage the top portion  
25 of the fence post, a sidewall portion extending upward from the bottom portion, the sidewall portion including a first recessed portion having a first aperture, the lighted base member further including an internal light source.

30 24. The fence post illumination system of claim 23 wherein the lighted base member includes a generally hollow interior portion.

25. The fence post illumination system of claim 23 further comprising an ornamental cap connected to a top portion of the lighted base member.

26. The fence post illumination system of claim 23 further comprising a second recessed portion having a second aperture in the sidewall portion of the lighted base member.

27. The fence post illumination system of claim 23 further comprising a plurality of additional apertures in the sidewall portion of the lighted base member.

28. The fence post illumination system of claim 23 further comprising a lens element secured to the lighted base member in the first aperture.

29. The fence post illumination system of claim 25 wherein the ornamental cap comprises a translucent material.

30. The fence post illumination system of claim 23 wherein the first recessed portion in the sidewall portion includes a generally concave portion.

31. The fence post illumination system of claim 30 wherein the first aperture is positioned in an upper portion of the concave portion.

32. The fence post illumination system of claim 23 further comprising a base plate connected to the bottom portion of the lighted base member, the internal light source connected to the base plate.

33. The fence post illumination system of claim 23 wherein the shape of the bottom portion of the lighted base member is generally rectangular, and the sidewall portion includes a first sidewall segment extending from a first wall of the rectangular bottom portion, a second sidewall segment extending from a second wall of the rectangular bottom portion, a third sidewall segment extending from a third wall of the rectangular bottom portion, and a fourth sidewall segment extending from a fourth wall of the rectangular bottom portion, the first aperture positioned in the first sidewall segment.

34. The fence post illumination system of claim 33 further comprising a second aperture positioned in the second sidewall segment, a third aperture position in the third sidewall segment, and a fourth aperture positioned in the fourth side wall segment.

-13-

35. The fence post illumination system of claim 33 wherein the first sidewall segment includes a generally concave portion, the second sidewall segment includes a generally concave portion, the third sidewall segment includes a generally concave portion, and the fourth sidewall segment includes a generally concave system.